

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARAMA 01141 221559Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FTC-01 JUSE-00 SEC-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 INT-05 COME-00 EB-07
/082 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3078
INFO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

UNCLAS PARAMARIBO 1141

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: EINV, NS, US
SUBJ: REPORTS OF ALCOA AND REYNOLDS PAYMENTS ABROAD

REF : PARAMARIBO 1056

1. DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE PAYMENTS OF BRIBES IN SURINAM BY ALCOA AND REYNOLDS ALUMINUM COMPANIES TOOK NEW TWIST ON DECEMBER 21 WITH INTRODUCTION OF INTERPELLATION BY FOUR OPPOSITION MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT LINKING THIS POTENTIAL SCANDAL WITH ALLEGATIONS OF IRREGULARITIES IN THE GRANTING OF CONTRACTS BY MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS. LATTER CONTROVERSY HAS BEEN SIMMERING FOR SEVERAL WEEKS SINCE FORMER SHAREHOLDER OF A CONSTRUCTION FIRM CHARGED THAT BRIBES HAD BEEN PAID HIGH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN PUBLIC WORKS MINISTRY IN CONNECTION WITH A BUILDING CONTRACT.

2. IN THEIR QUESTIONS DIRECTED AT MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND POLICE RELATING TO POSSIBLE ALCOA AND REYNOLDS PAYMENTS, PARLIAMENTARIANS SIETARAM, SOMOHARDJO, TILAKDHARIE AND RASAM RECALLED JULY 28 INTERPELLATION OF MP FRED DERBY. REMINDING THE MINISTER OF HIS PROMISE TO ANSWER DERBY'S QUESTIONS, THEY ASKED THE MINISTER: "CAN YOU STATE WHETHER NOW ALMOST FIVE MONTHS LATER SUFFICIENT INFORMATION HAS BECOME AVAILABLE NOT
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ONLY TO KEEP THE PROMISES TO (DERBY) BUT ALSO WHETHER GROUNDS EXIST TO INSTITUTE A JUDICIAL PROSECUTION?"

3. RECALLING THE QUICK INTERIM REPLY GIVEN BY MINISTER TO DERBY ON JULY 30, PARLIAMENTARIANS FURTHER ASKED: "CAN YOU ESTABLISH WHETHER THIS UNUSUAL AND STRIKINGLY FAST REACTION

(WITHIN THREE DAYS) TO THE QUESTIONS OF (DERBY), WHO IS AT THE SAME TIME YOUR PARTY COLLEAGUE, WAS GIVEN EXCLUSIVELY FOR JUDICIAL CONSIDERATIONS OR WHETHER OTHER MOTIVES PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE?"

4. MINISTER GAVE NO IMMEDIATE ANSWER TO INTERPELATION, WHICH NORMALLY SHOULD BE ANSWERED AT A LATER DATE.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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